

Message Text

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42

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 USIA-15 OPR-02 SIL-01 LAB-04

AID-05 IO-11 MMO-04 EB-07 COME-00 /060 W

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R 111059Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3434

UNCLAS BAMAKO 866

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, ML (FOFANA, DR. YAYA)

SUBJ: FY-76 IV NOMINATION

REF: BERG/GOMEZ DISCUSSIONS, ACCRA PAO CONFERENCE

IN ACCORDANCE WITH DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN CU/AF DIRECTOR BERG AND BAMAKO PAO GOMEZ AT JANUARY PAO CONFERENCE IN ACCRA, EMBASSY NOMINATES DR. YAYA FOFANA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INSTITUT NATIONAL DE BIOLOGIE HUMAINE, FOR A PARTIAL 21-DAY IV GRANT. BIO-DATA, JUSTIFICATION AND PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW:

1. NAME: DR. YAYA FOFANA.

2. PRESENT POSITION: DIRECTOR GENERAL, INSTITUT NATIONAL DE BIOLOGIE HUMAINE, BAMAKO, SINCE 1973. FORMER POSITIONS: MEDECIN-CHEF, LABORATOIRE CENTRAL DE BIOLOGIE, BAMAKO, 1963-73; MEDECIN-CHEF, HOPITAL SECONDAIRE DU SEGOU, 1962-63.

3. PERSONAL DATA: BORN IN KOULIKORO, MALI, 1927, MARRIED, 8 CHILDREN; ADDRESS: INSTITUT NATIONAL DE BIOLOGIE HUMAINE, B.P. 1771, BAMAKO; EMERGENCY ADDRESS: SAME. EDUCATION: LYCEE TERRASSON, 1956; FACULTE DES SCIENCES DE BORDEAUX, P.C.B), 1957; FACULTE DE MEDECINE DE BORDEAUX, DOCTORAT D'ETAT FRANCAIS DE MEDICINE C.E.S. DE SERO-IMMUNOLOGIE, C.E.S. D'HEMATOLOGIE, C.E.S. DE BACTERIOLOGIE, 58-62. PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: MEMBER, SOCIETE INTERNATIONALE

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D'HEMATOLOGIE, SINCE 1962; MEMBER, COMITE DE REDACTION MEDICAL

DU MALI.

HOBBIES: PING-PONG, MUSIC, DO-IT-YOURSELF PROJECTS.

PUBLICATIONS: ETUDE ANALYTIQUE DE LA REACTION DE L'ANTIGLOB-
ULINE: ETUDE DES SOUCHES DE NEISSEIRA MENINGITIDIS AU MALI
AU COUR DE L'EPIDEMIE EN 69-70.

TRAVEL: PRC, 1964; AUSTRIA, 1961; USSR, 1972; SENEGAL AND
FRANCE SEVERAL TIMES.

4. KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH: SOME READING; OTHERWISE POOR.

5. OTHER LANGUAGES: FRENCH, BAMBARA

6. JUSTIFICATION: THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY NOMINATION FOR WHICH
THE EMBASSY REQUESTS SPECIAL CONSIDERATION AS ASSURED BY
MR. BERG IN ACCRA. DR. FOFANA IS A HIGHLY RESPECTED, INFLUENTIAL
SCIENTIST-RESEARCHER AND DIRECTOR OF ONE OF MALI'S MOST IMPORTANT
MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS. IT PROVIDES BOTH EMERGENCY AND ROUTINE
CARE FOR PERSONS WITH A VARIETY OF DISEASES. MISSION PERSONNEL
RECEIVE SOME ROUTINE MEDICAL EXAMINATION SERVICES THERE. DR.
FOFANA NOT ONLY "CREATED" THE INSTITUTE BUT HAS BEEN VERY
SUCCESSFUL IN ATTRACTING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO EQUIP
AND STAFF IT, MOST NOTABLY FROM THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND
AND FRANCE. DR. FOFANA IS A CONFIDANT OF SEVERAL HIGHLY
PLACED GOM OFFICIALS.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, HOWEVER, THE NOMINEE IS AN INTIMATE
FRIEND OF SEYDOU DIALLO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL
UNION OF MALIAN WORKERS (UNTM) WHO ACCOMPANIED THEN LABOR
MINISTER SORY COULIBALY ON HIS 1974 IV VISIT AND WHO IS ONE OF
MALI'S MOST INDEPENDENTLY POWERFUL AND INFLUENTIAL "PRIVATE"
CITIZENS. IN EARLY 1975 DIALLO INVITED THE AMBASSADOR TO
VISIT THE INBH AND MEET FOFANA. BOTH DIALLO AND FOFANA RAISED
THE SUBJECT OF A U.S. VISIT, BUT OTHER AREAS HAVE HAD PRIORITY
IN THE POST'S LIMITED IV PROGRAM.

EMBASSY RELATIONS WITH DIALLO AND THE UNTM HAVE BEEN SEVERELY
STRAINED SINCE MID-75 AS A RESULT OF PROBLEMS SURROUNDING THE
DELIVERY OF AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN LABOR CENTER-DONATED MOBILE
CLINIC, AND IN THE FALL THE VIRTUAL SUSPENSION OF AALC RELATIONS
WITH THE UNTM OVER THE GOM VOTE FOR THE ZIONISM EQUALS RACISM
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RESOLUTION. THIS NOMINATION, THEREFORE, PROVIDES NOT ONLY THE
OPPORTUNITY TO SEND AN INFLUENTIAL PROFESSIONAL TO THE U.S.,
BUT ALSO TO REPAIR DAMAGED RELATIONS WITH MALI'S FOREMOST
LABOR LEADER.

IN ACCRA::7/AF DIRECTOR BERG ASSURED PAO GOMEZ OF BUREAU
SUPPORT IF FOFANA COULD GET TO PARIS. DR. FOFANA HAS JUST
BEEN INVITED TO JOIN THE PARIS-BASED CLUB DE L'HEMOGOOBINE

AND IS TO ATTEND ITS FIRST INTERNATIONAL MEETING MAY 15-22.
THE EMBASSY REQUESTS A 21-DAY GRANT FOLLOWING THIS MEETING.

7. PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS: DR. FOFANA IS CLEARLY MOST INTERESTED IN OBSERVING U.S. MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTERS, PARTICULARLY IN IMMUNOLOGY, HEMATOLOGY AND BACTERIOLOGY. MEDICAL SCHOOLS CONCERNED WITH TROPICAL DISEASES SHOULD BE INCLUDED. GIVEN LIMITED TIME AND COST FACTORS, TRAVELS MIGHT BE CONFINED TO THE EAST AND SOUTH. HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE U.N., DISNEY-WORLD, THE ELECTIONS AND THE BICENTENNIAL. MOST OF THE INBH'S LAB EQUIPMENT IS AMERICAN, SUGGESTING, THEREFORE, A VISIT TO AN AMERICAN MANUFACTURER. BAMAKO'S SISTER CITY OF ROCHESTER OFFERS NOT ONLY THE OCCASION OF STRENGTHENING TIES BUT ALSO SEEING THE ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KODAK, BAUSCH AND LOMB, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

8. AN ESCORT-INTERPRETER WILL BE REQUIRED. DR. FOFANA DRINKS ONLY NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

9. GIVEN THE EXTRAORDINARY NATURE OF THIS NOMINATION, THE EMBASSY REITERATES ITS REQUEST FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION, POSSIBLY FOR FALL-OUT FUNDING, AND FOR A PROMPT RESPONSE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BAMAKO00866
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760092-1046
From: BAMAKO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760373/aaaacmbv.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2004 by vandyklc>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY-76 IV NOMINATION
TAGS: OEXC, ML, US, (FOFANA, YAYA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006